Documenting Your Hydrology Study Site
Field Guide

Task

Describe and locate your Hydrology Study Site.

What You Need

- ❑ *Hydrology Site Definition Sheet*
- ❑ *GPS Protocol Field Guide*
- ❑ Pencil or pen
- ❑ Compass
- ❑ GPS Receiver
- ❑ Camera
- ❑ GLOBE Science Log

In the Field

1. Fill in the information on the top of your *Hydrology Site Definition Sheet.*
2. Name your site by creating a unique name that describes the location of your site.
3. Locate your Hydrology Study Site following the *GPS Protocol Field Guide.*
4. Record the name of the water body you are sampling, using the name commonly used in maps. If your water body does not have a common name, then provide the name of the water body your water site comes from or flows into or both. For example, Unnamed Stream, Tributary to Green River; Unnamed Stream, Outlet from Whiterock Lake; Unnamed Stream, Outlet from Bear Lake, Tributary to Black Creek.
5. Record whether the water is salt water or fresh water.
6. If your water site is moving water, record whether it is a stream, river, or other and its approximate width in meters.
7. If your water site is standing water, record whether it is a pond, lake, reservoir, bay, ditch, ocean or other and whether it is smaller than, larger than, or about equal to a 50 m x 100 m area. If known, indicate the approximate area (km^2) and depth (meters).
8. Record whether your sample location is an outlet, bank, bridge, boat, inlet or pier.
9. Record whether you can see the bottom.
10. Record the material from which the bank or channel is made.
11. Record the type of bedrock, if known.
12. Record the manufacturer and model number for each chemical test kit you are using, if any.

13. Record in the *Comments* section any information that may be important for understanding the water at your site. Some possible observations might be:

    a. Any upstream discharge into your body of water

    b. Whether the flow (streams) or water level (lakes) is regulated or is natural (for example, flow is regulated downstream of dams).

    c. Types of plants and animals observed

    d. Amount of vegetation in the stream

    e. Human uses of the water: fishing, swimming, boating, drinking water, irrigation, etc.

    f. Other information about why this specific site was selected.

14. Standing where you will be collecting your water sample, take four photographs of your sampling area, one in each cardinal direction (N, S, E, W). Use a compass to determine the direction.

15. Print two sets of photographs and label each photo with your school's name and address, your Hydrology Study Site name, and cardinal direction. Keep one set for your records.

16. Submit the other set to GLOBE by mailing them to the address given in the *Implementation Guide*.